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Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Corruption in sport

The Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Recognizing the important role played by the United Nations Convention against Corruption[1] in harmonizing the actions taken by Governments in the fight against corruption in all its forms,

Noting that sport plays a key role in the cultural, educational, social and economic spheres,

Concerned that corruption can undermine the potential of sport and its role in contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2]

Noting with great concern the risk that corruption and economic crime, including money-laundering, pose to sport,

Recognizing that corruption in sport undermines the fundamental principles of Olympism, as reflected in the Olympic Charter,

Affirming the invaluable contribution of the Olympic and Paralympic movements in establishing sport as a unique means for the promotion of peace and development, in particular through the ideal of the Olympic Truce, acknowledging the opportunities provided by past Olympic and Paralympic Games, welcoming with appreciation all upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games, and calling upon States parties that will host such Games and other major sporting events in the future, as well as other States parties, to enhance measures to address the risks of corruption related to such events,

Acknowledging the important role played by States parties, with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in the fight against corruption in sport,

Noting that, while the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption is the responsibility of States parties, the promotion of integrity,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.
[2] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

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transparency and accountability and the prevention of corruption in sport are responsibilities to be shared by all relevant stakeholders,

Highlighting in this context the contributions of sport-related organizations and the role of the athletes, the media, civil society, academia and other private sector entities in the fight against corruption in sport, and also highlighting the key role of public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder approaches in this regard,

Referring to the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime signed in May 2011, which provides a framework for cooperation between these organizations in the fields of preventing and fighting corruption in sport, and taking note of their joint publication entitled *Model Criminal Law Provisions for the Prosecution of Competition Manipulation*,

Recognizing the crucial role of the United Nations in combating and preventing corruption in sport and promoting integrity in sport,

Also recognizing the contributions that other intergovernmental organizations and forums[3] make in the fight against corruption in sport and the promotion of integrity in sport,

Concerned that the challenge posed by corruption could in some cases undermine the potential of sports to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Recalling its resolution 6/6 of 6 November 2015, entitled "Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption", in which it recognized the importance of protecting integrity in sport by promoting good governance in sport and mitigating the risk of corruption that sport faces globally, requested the Secretariat to continue, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, partners and donors, to develop studies, training materials, guides and tools for Governments and sports organizations to enable them to further strengthen measures in that area, and acknowledged the work that had already been done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in that regard,

Recalling also the Kazan Action Plan, adopted on 15 July 2017 by the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in particular main policy area III of the Conference of Ministers Sport Policy Follow-up Framework, on protecting the integrity of sport,

Recalling further its resolution 5/4 of 29 November 2013, entitled "Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption", in which it strongly encouraged States parties to mitigate the global risk of corruption in the organization of large-scale sporting events and welcomed the initiative to establish a global alliance for integrity in sports,

Recognizing the existence of multi-stakeholder partnerships to combat and prevent corruption in sport, and noting the contributions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to those partnerships,

Taking note of the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption, in particular its substantive discussions on anti-corruption in sport and the conclusions and recommendations adopted at its meeting held in Vienna from 22 to 24 August 2016,[4] and taking note also of the related guidance material developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, namely the *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons*, the *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing* and *The*

[3] Such as the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Organization of American States and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. See, inter alia, the Group of 20 Leaders' Declaration of 8 July 2017.

[4] See CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/5.

United Nations Convention against Corruption: A Strategy for Safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events,

1. *Affirms* the relevance of the United Nations Convention against Corruption[1] to promoting integrity, transparency and accountability and preventing corruption, also in sport;

2. *Calls upon* States parties to enhance their efforts to prevent and fight corruption in sport, and in this regard stresses the importance of robust legislative and law enforcement measures, and also calls upon States parties to improve cooperation, coordination and exchange of information in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems;

3. *Also calls upon* States parties to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, in accordance with their legal systems, to effectively mitigate the risks of corruption in sport, including through multi-stakeholder global and national partnerships;

4. *Recognizes* the importance for States parties, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to take appropriate measures within their means, and in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, the private sector, academia, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of the challenge posed by corruption to sport;

5. *Encourages* States parties, bearing in mind in particular articles 8, 32 and 33 of the Convention and in conformity with national legislation and in the context of sport, to consider establishing and developing, where appropriate, confidential complaint systems, whistle-blower protection programmes, including protected reporting systems, and effective witness protection measures, and to increase awareness of such measures;

6. *Also encourages* States parties, in accordance with their national legislation, to address the challenge that corruption in sport could in some cases pose to the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

7. *Urges* States parties to encourage all relevant stakeholders, in particular the organizers of major sporting events, to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Convention when organizing major public events and to use such events to promote and support efforts to address related corruption risks;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* the publication of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *The United Nations Convention against Corruption: A Strategy for Safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events*, and invites organizers of major sporting events to make use of that publication, as well as of its support tool;

9. *Invites* States parties, in accordance with their national legislation, to encourage relevant stakeholders related to sport to promote ethical practices and transparency, ensure that necessary resources and specialized staff are in place, develop internal controls, design targeted training programmes, implement internal mechanisms for reporting acts of corruption and cooperate with official investigations;

10. *Also invites* States parties, when reviewing their national legislation, to consider the problems and issues of illegal betting, competition manipulation and other offences related to sport when associated with corruption, and in that regard takes note with appreciation of the joint publication by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Olympic Committee of the booklet and study entitled *Model Criminal Law Provisions for the Prosecution of Competition Manipulation*;

11. *Further invites* States parties to provide information to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the issues contained in this resolution, in the interests of identifying appropriate technical assistance needs and, together with the Office, to consider the possibility of whether and how the Office can assist in collecting appropriate information on institutional policy and programme-related developments regarding efforts to prevent and fight corruption in sport and what the result of such activities could be;

12. *Requests* the Secretariat, within its mandate, to continue, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, partners and donors and in close consultation with States parties, to develop studies, training materials, guides and tools for Governments and sports organizations, and to disseminate information and good practices to further strengthen measures against corruption in sport;

13. *Invites* sports organizations to consider providing extrabudgetary resources for the purposes identified in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

14. *Invites* States parties and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes identified in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

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